

ELECTRONIC WARFARE BIBLIOGRAPHY

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**ON GUARD**

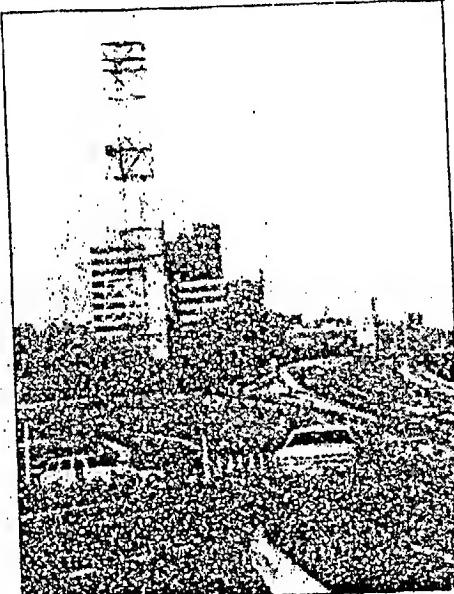
# Air Force Accused of "Zapping" Protesters

Women peace campers at Greenham Common, England, claim that they are being attacked by the US electronic weapons from within the US airbase there. They believe that some form of electromagnetic wave or other signal is being directed at them and is responsible for a number of illnesses they have suffered over the past year.

Symptoms range from mild headaches and drowsiness to bouts of temporary paralysis and, in one case, an apparent circulatory failure which required emergency treatment. Women have also complained of sharp pains and problems with speech coordination. A team of doctors from the Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons are compiling a report on the condition of the women affected.

The women first noticed a pattern of illnesses emerging in 1984. They discounted food or water poisoning as a cause and started to suspect interference from inside the base. They found that women at different points around the camp appeared to have experienced similar symptoms at the same time, even when they were not in contact with one another.

They believe there is a deliberate intent



Microwave tower owned by the U.S. Army Communications Command, McLean, Virginia. PHOTO BY ROBIN TROTTER

to make life difficult for them and so drive them away. Some of the worst affected women now find it impossible to stay around Greenham for more than a short period of time.

Electronic weapons are known to have been used by security forces on a number of occasions. The Americans are reported to have used ultrasound to disorient and demoralise their enemies during the Vietnam war and a number of American police forces are believed to have carried out trials with infra-sound generators mounted on the back of trucks. The high intensity, low frequency pressure waves these produce are said to cause vomiting, nausea and a range of other disturbances and to induce fits in those who are subject to them. American medical groups have protested against the proposed use of these weapons for urban riot control.

Microwave radiation is also believed to have been used as a weapon at various times. The most celebrated instance was the irradiation of the US Embassy in Moscow during the 1950s, '60s and '70s. It has never been made clear whether the Russians used the signal as a weapon or for surveillance, but a television documentary screened last year reported a high incidence of cancer amongst ex-Embassy staff and suggested that disorders of the blood and nervous system could also have been caused by the signal.

The women at Greenham Common suspect that more than one type or frequency of radiation is being used against them. They say that the symptoms vary from time to time and seem to reflect what takes place on the base. Large numbers of women have complained of sudden feel-

ings of extreme tiredness shortly before major events such as the departure of a cruise missile convoy and on other occasions when their activities might have proved particularly awkward for the force using the base.

We have conducted a number of tests around the base in cooperation with journalists from other organisations. Reading taken with a wide range signal strength meter showed marked increases in the background signal level near one of the women's camps at a time when they claimed to be experiencing ill effects.

On another occasion, previously low signal levels near the camp rose sharply when the women created a disturbance just outside the perimeter fence of the base. Whether this indicated an attempt to subdue the women by electronic means or merely the use of a radar surveillance system it is impossible to say.

The signal levels measured were well above normal background levels but still within official safety limits. However there is evidence from a number of sources that low levels of electromagnetic radiation can have harmful effects especially where exposure takes place over a long period of time.

British Defense officials have denied that any form of electronic signal is being used against the protesters.

—courtesy, *Electronics Today*.

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